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**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace any/all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application, wherein additions are shown in underlined text and deletions are shown in strike-out text or between brackets ([ ]):

1. (Currently Amended) A thin-film magnetic head having an MR head portion containing magnetoresistive elements, wherein a diamond-like carbon protective film having the composition represented by the following formula:



(where a = 0 - 0.7, b = 0 - 1, c = 0 - 1, d = 0 - 1, e = 0 - 1, and f = 0 - 1, in terms of atomic ratio), and having a thickness of 10 Å - 30 Å, is formed on at least the surface of said MR head portion facing a recording medium.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head according to Claim 1, wherein a = 0.05 - 0.7.

4. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) A magnetic disk device having at least one slider equipped with the thin-film magnetic head according to Claim 1.

10. (Canceled)